

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 /064 W

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R 201645Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1115

INFO US MISSION NATO 530

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

USCINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN

USCINCUSNAVEUR, LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 1213

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, SP

SUBJ: BASE NEGOTIATIONS

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF REMARKS
MADE BY PRESIDENT ARIAS IN UPI INTERVIEW APPEARING IN
MORNING PRESS FEB 20.

2. QUOTE: I WILL NEVER BE TOTALLY SATISFIED WITH ANYTHING
(SUCH AS RELATIONS WITH U.S.). I BELIEVE THERE IS NOTHING
WORSE FOR MAN IN POLITICS OR PLAIN CITIZEN THAN SELF-
SATISFACTION. THIS CAN ONLY LEAD TO IMMOBILISM. I BELIEVE
THERE IS ALWAYS ROOM FOR IMPROVING ASPECTS OF CERTAIN
THINGS, ALTHOUGH IT WOULD NOT BE CORRECT TO TALK TO YOU
ABOUT PROGRESS AND IN WHICH WE HAVE PLACED GREAT
EXPECTATIONS. FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN U.S. AND
SPAIN IS SOMETHING WHICH WILL ALWAYS HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY
NURTURED AND MAINTAINED WITH DIGNITY. AS FAR AS THE
JOINT BASES ARE CONCERNED, SPAIN ABANDONED ITS TRADITIONAL
NEUTRALITY, MAINTAINED FOR CENTURIES, IN ORDER TO OFFER
ITS ASSISTANCE COMMITTED TO DEFENSE OF WESTERN

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CIVILIZATION OF FREE WORLD WHICH REJECTS ANY FORMULA FOR

TOTALITARIAN OPPRESSION. NECESSITY FOR CLOSE COOPERATION
IN IT DEPENDS UPON GUARANTEES FOR SECURITY THIS DEFENSE
PROVIDES. UNQUOTE.

3. COMMENT: UPI CORRESPONDENT PROVIDED EMBASSY PRESS
OFFICER WITH TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW WHICH ACTUALLY TOOK
PLACE ALMOST MONTH AGO, ON JAN 23. CORRESPONDENT'S
ENGLISH SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW INTERPRETS LATTER POINT BY
ARIAS AS HINT THAT "SPAIN WAS DETERMINED TO REMAIN
FIRM IN ITS DEMAND FOR NEW U.S. SECURITY GUARANTEES IN
EXCHANGE FOR USE OF BASES". THIS IS WAY IN WHICH
IT MAY BE REPORTED IN U.S. NEWSPAPERS, POSSIBLY LINKED TO
LATEST ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS.

4. AS STATEMENT MADE ALMOST MONTH AGO, OBVIOUSLY IT IS NOT
RELATED TO LATEST ROUND. MOREOVER, RATHER THAN SPAIN'S
DETERMINATION TO REMAIN FIRM ON SECURITY GUARANTEE, WE
READ ARIAS' STATEMENT AS SOMETHING PERHAPS MORE FLEXIBLE,
MEANING SIMPLY THAT SPAIN WILL COOPERATE IN WESTERN DEFENSE
TO THE DEGREE SPAIN BELIEVES ITS SECURITY IS ENHANCED BY
SUCH COOPERATION.

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